

me the fact that Iowa had such a law and I believe that this amendment is somewhat mirrored after the Iowa law. And he also indicated to me that in his years as county attorney in Dakota County that he was faced with the tragedies that we are describing in the press daily, some involving guns, some involving knives, some involving just totally irresponsible behavior by parents, and he was very frustrated as a county attorney because the child abuse statutes, which are really the only statutes we have on the books now to deal with these kinds of problems, did not take care of the problem and that cases were not being filed, and that to me it is just tragic and irresponsible and ridiculous to allow these things to continue without holding the adults, at least to a certain degree, responsible for their actions or inaction. And to me that in every one of these cases that I've seen come out of my city where there had been accidental shootings or other kinds of incidents where a simple act of taking the firearm or the knife or whatever it would be and locking it up would have prevented the problem and the parents and the adults simply, the law suggests that today in Nebraska, that there is no responsibility on their part and I think that is just so totally inappropriate. So with that, Mr. Speaker, I would offer the amendment and I'd be interested in hearing Senator Hohenstein's, maybe more, giving some more background information on some of the cases that he's had to face as a county attorney in his county and we can talk further about it. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Senator Chambers, on the Ashford amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I think I ought to get paid more than other legislators because I function as a sieve so many times and I see these bad things in the law and I wind up more than anybody else having to deal with them, but since I came down here nobody said it would be easy. I'd like to ask Senator Ashford a question.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Ashford.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Ashford, what this amendment does right now, first of all, is there a difference between a negligent act and an intentional act?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Yes.